Boruca language

The **Boruca language** (in Boruca: *Brúnkajk*;[2] also known as **Bronka**, **Bronca, Brunca**) is the native language of the Boruca people of Costa Rica. Boruca belongs to the Isthmian branch of the Chibchan languages. Though exact speaker numbers are uncertain, UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger has listed Boruca as "critically endangered".[2][3] It was spoken fluently by only five women in 1986, while 30 to 35 others spoke it non-fluently. The rest of the tribe's 1,000 members speak Spanish.

Boruca is taught as a second language at the local primary school Escuela Doris Z. Stone. One can hear Bronka words and phrases mixed into Spanish conversations but it is extremely rare to hear prolonged exchanges in Bronka.

Boruca	
Bronca	
Native to	Costa Rica
Ethnicity	one thousand Boruca people (1991)[1]
Native speakers	3 (2007)[1]
Language family	Chibchan • **Boruca**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	brn
Glottolog	boru1252 (https://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/boru1252)
ELP	Boruca (https://www.endangeredlanguages.com/lang/2596)

Grammar

The personal pronouns in Boruca (the ˅ represents a glottal stop.)[4]

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	*át*	*di˅ / di˅ rójc*
2nd	*bá*	*bi˅ / bi˅ rójc*
3rd	*i*	*i rójc / i˅ rójc*

The numbers (the "n̈", "n" with the diaeresis "¨" on top may be unavailable in some fonts, it represents a slightly different sound from the normal n or ñ.)[5]

Numbers	Bronka
1	*éᵛxe, éᵛxi*
2	*búᵛc*
3	*mañ*
4	*bájcañ*
5	*shishcáñ*
6	*téshan*
7	*cúj, cújc*
8	*éjtañ*
9	*cújtañ, éjcuj*
10	*téjcuj, cróshtañ, búᵛc cúj*

Greetings

¿Ishójcre rában? 'What's up?'
Morén, morén. 'Fine, well.'[6]

See also

- Brunca Sign Language

External links

- Map of Boruca (https://maps.google.com/maps?q=map+boruca&hl=en&ll=9.001919,-83.324497&spn=0.00569,0.009184&t=h&z=17)

References

1. Boruca (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/brn/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015) (subscription required)
2. Hanson, Seibert; E, Aroline (2019). "Reexamining the classification of an endangered language: The vitality of Brunca" (http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/24899) . *Language Documentation & Conservation*. **13**: 384–400. ISSN 1934-5275 (https://search.worldcat.org/issn/1934-5275) .
3. UNESCO. "UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger". 2017. http://www.unesco.org/languages-atlas/index.php .
4. Quesada Pacheco, Miguel Ángel (1995). *Hablemos Boruca*. (in Spanish and Boruca). San José, Costa Rica: Ministerio de Educación Pública. p. 33. ISBN 9977-60-114-3.

5. Quesada Pacheco, Miguel Ángel (1995). *Hablemos boruca*. (in Spanish and Boruca). San José, Costa Rica: Ministerio de Educación Pública. p. 82. ISBN 9977-60-114-3.

6. Maroto Rojas, Espíritu Santo (1999). "Palabras varias Saludos". *Lengua o dialecto Boruca o Brunkajk*. (in Spanish and Boruca). San José, Costa Rica: Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica. p. 49. ISBN 9977-67-554-6.

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